HOPE

HEALTH OPULENCE PEACE ENLIGHTENMENT

Volume 4 February-March, 1959 Number 6

'TIS SPRING AGAIN

'Tis Spring again; and in the trees and flowers,
Life now returns from Winter's silent sleep;
O'er hill and dale God manifests His Powers,
And from above, Their watch the Angels keep.

'Tis Spring again; and in the colors blending,
The tiny crocus and the daffodil
Raise their bright cups — the proof of life unending,
As each small bulb does now its Plan fulfill.

'Tis Spring again; the birds sing forth its praises,
And creatures small now scamper 'round in glee;
And in man's heart, as now his voice he raises
In songs of joy, he's longing to be free.

'Tis Spring again; and Resurrection's Glory,
In splendor brings the Gifts from God above;
And to all men we tell the age-old story —
From out the tomb Christ stands revealed in Love.

K. Arthur Knight

Also in this issue: The Elohim of Peace, Tranquility; The Elohim of Divine Love, Orion; Immortality through Love and Peace; The Legend of the Wissahickon; The Heart of God; Peace; The Strength of Love; The Power of the Hand; The Cause and Healing of Disease.

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A BI-MONTHLY JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE EXPANSION OF SPIRITUAL ETHICS AND UNDERSTANDING AMONG ALL PEOPLES

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THE BELOVED ELOHIM OF PEACE – TRANQUILITY – AND HIS DIVINE COMPLEMENT – PACIFICA

Even the layman knows, without a doubt, that the sweet planet Earth desires, in its individual and collective units, a *lasting Peace* wherein there is no possibility of future wars and the frightening experiences that are the fruits of war. In concluding this series of articles on the Seven Mighty Elohim of Creation, we bring to the gentle reader's consciousness the realization that there are actual Beings who, *for aeons of time, have developed* and now sustain that very quality of God Peace which nothing human can ever disturb. These Great Beings helped to create this very planet Earth itself, and are always eager and desirous of assisting each and every human being to bring "Peace on Earth *through* men and women of good will!" The very name of the Elohim of Peace (Tranquility) shows the wise man that Tranquility, so much desired by all life, is already waiting for the invocation of His Presence, His gifts, His powers, and His Love, as well as that of His Divine Complement, the Lady Master, Pacifica, who serves with Him at all times. Even as on Earth certain human friends can and do give us confidence through the radiation of their natural feelings of assurance, these Divine Beings who have much more radiation to give, can and do pour through individuals conscious of Their Presence, the actual substance, radiation and power of Their God-gift of Peace which expands, then, to bless the family unit, the community, the nation, and, verily, the Earth itself.

So many individuals, desiring Peace, feel unworthy or unable to do anything *practical* to bring forth a lasting Peace. Here is the Way! Every man, woman and child on this Earth *can*, through his or her attention upon the Beloved Tranquility and Pacifica, draw more of Their God-Peace into a world torn with chaos, fear, and distress. This is not a question of using 'mind force', but of actually *feeling* that these God-Beings are eager to assist the peoples of Earth—particularly at this time.

It has been proven that the united minds of men cannot do much to either secure or sustain a lasting Peace, but the hearts and feelings of mothers, fathers and children, calling for Peace, can quickly make themselves channels through which the golden essence of Peace *will* flow into the worlds of those who experiment with its Divine Representatives mentioned above. Through a permanent and lasting Peace, every good thing (even national and planetary blessings) can and shall remain without the disintegrating force of dissension and decay.

Beloved Heavenly Father and Beloved Tranquility and Pacifica! I, as one of the children of Earth, desire to participate in the bringing forth of a lasting Peace for myself, my loved ones, and the sweet Earth. I say, as the Beloved Master Jesus did long ago: "I, of myself, can do nothing!" But You and Your Messengers, through me, can and will help me to be such a radiating center of God Peace to the Earth and Her peoples. Help me to *feel* Your reality, and to manifest, through my own nature, that Peace which does surpass the understanding of the human mind. As one with God is a majority, I place my hand in Yours to this end, and know that You will answer my every prayer. AMEN

THE BELOVED ELOHIM OF DIVINE LOVE – ORION – AND HIS DIVINE COMPLEMENT – ANGELICA

The Beloved Elohim, Orion, and His Divine Complement, Angelica, are both greatly interested in bringing forth Peace on Earth through the aspect of Divine Love, Without pure Divine Love emanating from the magnetizing center in the heart of any individual, no lasting Peace can manifest because the motive *behind* the individual's call is, in itself, selfish. Orion and Angelica are the embodiment of that Love of which we speak. Love, in itself, is a positive quality, not a negative sentimentality, and its radiation brings forth the warmth of the feeling of good will toward all unhappy and imprisoned life. It is the Divine Edict of the Heavenly Father that the peoples of Earth learn how to love one another NOW! Love is the cohesive power of the universe, whether we refer to personal possessions or planetary Peace. Thus the Elohim of Love serve closely with the Elohim of Peace. A man does not have to believe in the Sun to be the beneficiary of its light and warmth. Neither does a man have to believe in the Elohim in order to receive Their blessings. However, time, experimentation, and true concentration upon Them will prove to anyone willing to make such an endeavor that these Beings are *real* and that Their God-gifts are not ephemeral but practical in the affairs of men.

This entire series of HOPE has been dedicated to the Elohim and Their services to mankind, and there is many a gentle reader who has so

proved the reality of the Elohim by self-conscious endeavor to understand Them, to accept Them, and to focalize Their gifts into their own worlds. We invite those gentle readers who have not yet done so, to turn their attention towards the Elohim and *feel* the added radiation of Peace and Love which will be theirs by reason of such endeavors.

> Beloved Heavenly Father and Beloved Orion and Angelica! I, as one of the children of Earth, desire to know and to feel the Presence of PURE DIVINE LOVE, so that It emanates from my own feeling world and becomes a radiating center of warmth and understanding toward all life. Help me to *feel* Your reality and truly become, here on Earth, a small part of Your feeling of Love Divine for the blessing of myself, my loved ones, my community, my nation, and the very Earth itself. I shall, truly, open the doors and windows of my soul to Your Presence and let the Light of Love and Peace flow into me and through me for the blessing of all life. SO BE IT!

DEDICATION

This magazine is consecrated to the service of helping every individual, regardless of race, color, religious affiliation or profession, to come into closer communion with his God.

It is entirely non-sectarian, and we shall, at all times endeavor to give what spiritual assistance we can to help men rise toward the Source of all Life, *which is ONE* in all! It is the heart-felt belief of the Editor and staff of "HOPE" that the God-loving men and women of this Earth are truly the *HOPE* of the world, and every endeavor which brings people closer to God has our support, our love, and our blessing.

In this day of enlightened thinking, men and women are learning that fundamental Truths are to be found beneath the debris of the many sects and isms, and those Truths are based on the well-known Biblical statement "GOD IS LOVE!"

EASTER MORN

We bless Thy Name, dear Jesus,
Whose Peace — the Holy Dove —
Is Thy example for us
Through pure unselfish Love.

Oh, blaze Thy Christ Light through us
From Thy Most Sacred Heart;
In dazzling Light Thou comest —
Oh, ne'er from us depart.

Thou art the Christ triumphant;
All men proclaim Thy song!
We hear Earth choirs now chanting
To join the Heavenly throng.

Now Angel voices blending
With all our songs sublime,
Are telling of Thy Glory
In Thy great heights Divine.

As Earth is bathed in beauty
On this glad Easter morn,
Our Lord stands forth in Vict'ry,
And Light in us is born.

As through His Resurrection,
The Christ is glorified,
So, too, the Goal — Ascension —
Will never be denied.

Rose O. Lea

IMMORTALITY THROUGH LOVE AND PEACE

by Charity Masters

The great Master Jesus, who proved the power of Love and Peace as no other man has ever done, once said: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it—thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang *all* the law and the prophets." Matt. 22:37.

Many aeons ago, when the planet Earth was new and beautiful, Love, Peace, Beauty and Happiness reigned supreme, and each and every individual expressed the perfection of the God-Parents—truly the Garden of Eden which means obedience to Divine Will. Every thought and feeling being an expression of Love and Beauty, mankind created a perfection on the Earth similar to that of the Heaven World. It is the remembrance of this great perfection which everyone experiences from time to time that causes every heart to seek again and again for that Love and Peace and Perfection, for the heart *knows* that it is its Divine Birthright.

Since the shadows came to our Earth (referred to as the Fall of Man) and have all but engulfed mankind (which is a complete story in itself), it has become increasingly difficult to find the Path that leads back to the Heaven Home and God's Perfection, but eventually each searching soul does place its feet upon that Sacred Path and endeavors to follow it to the top—to the Mount of Attainment—where Love and Happiness unending await each one.

There are many Paths that lead to the top—any one of which, if faithfully followed, will assist you in arriving at your destination, but the quickest way—the short-cut—is a very simple one—so simple that is is so often missed It is the Path of *Pure Divine Love!* God's Love will smooth out the rough places and guard you against the pitfalls that may be along the way, for Love is a quality which is an opposing force to all who do not serve the Light. When called in, through and around or sent before you, it becomes a powerful protection in addition to forming a mighty magnet drawing only good into your world.

When you finally know of the Great Individualized "I AM" Presence that stands above and around you, and which has anchored a portion of Itself in your heart, you have entered into mighty knowledge. That "I AM" Presence of God in your heart—your Christ Self—is that which beats your heart and sends LIFE through your body, and It holds within Itself all the powers of Almighty God in embryo, awaiting your conscious call to draw them forth and expand them for the blessing, not only of yourself, but also your fellowman. You may call forth any God Quality you choose by claiming it with the words "I AM".

Thinking, speaking, and feeling "I AM" THE PRESENCE OF GOD'S DIVINE LOVE! "I AM" THE PRESENCE OF GOD'S PEACE! "I AM" THE PRESENCE OF GOD'S BEAUTY! Any of these constructive statements will help you to concentrate your attention upon the Pathway of Divine Love or any of the God Qualities you may choose to contemplate.

We are told that every atom of energy we have ever used in thought, feeling, spoken word or deed that did not carry a BLESSING to some part of life MUST BE transmuted back into its original state of perfection. Therefore, it becomes our obligation, when walking on the Path of Divine Love, to see that our every thought, our every feeling, our every word, and our every act DO carry forth Love and Peace which IS a blessing to all.

Your use of Life is not limited to Sunday or certain other allotted times; you are thinking and feeling SOMETHING every moment of your existence, so that you need to PRACTICE THE PRESENCE OF GOD in everything you do. Each time a thought of criticism or imperfection of any kind attempts to manifest; when a feeling of irritation or depression or a memory of some injustice, unkindness or hurt arises; or a word of gossip or imperfection tries to go forth from you—STOP—and silently say: "Beloved Presence of God "I AM" in me; YOU CHANGE THAT APPEARANCE AND POUR FORTH ALL YOUR LOVE AND BLESSINGS THERE!" Then try to FEEL what you are thinking and saying and thus transmute *permanently* the habits of sending forth discord which have gained such a momentum throughout the centuries.

God works through His many Messengers, and the Great Elohim, Orion, who helped to build our planet Earth, represents the God Quality of Pure Divine Love. If you will call to Him each day, again and again, and endeavor to check the sending forth of discord—replacing it with pure Divine Love, you will gradually build a momentum, and it will become almost automatic for you to think kindly of, feel lovingly toward, and speak only perfection about everything your attention rests upon. It is not necessary to spend long hours in a corner thinking about God and His Love. If you are conscious of Him with your every thought and feeling, you will truly be expressing God's great Love and Perfection in everything that you do.

Each morning, before you start out—whether it is merely to dust your house or go to the office, try to STILL YOURSELF and turn your attention to the Christ—"I AM" in your heart. Send your Love to It and ask It to charge you with Its feeling of God's Divine Love. Then call to the Great Orion to *amplify* your efforts in drawing forth that PURE DIVINE LOVE. He will do just that if you will invoke His Presence. Picture this in your mind and FEEL that wondrous Quality

of Divine Love surging through every part of your body bringing that ease and Peace and Comfort. Then visualize it dissolving every memory of hurt and distress of any kind in your Etheric Body, replacing it with the remembrance of all the wonderful things that you have experienced. Picture this as a lovely Pink Flame penetrating your brain structure and mental world, dissolving the imperfect thought patterns there. Finally feel it within your FEELING WORLD taking out all hard feelings, all set opinions, all feelings of anxiety, depression, stress and strain, and just rest and relax in the Love of God. See yourself held within a pillar of this Pink Flame of Love and let it pour out from you to bless everything you contact. Then draw before your mind's eye every individual you have ever known in this lifetime with whom you were not in perfect agreement and ask Beloved Orion to help you to enfold them in the Pink Flame of His Love and see that all is adjusted into harmonious association. By doing this day after day, you will find yourself becoming such a magnet that both people and all animate life will be drawn toward that Radiance, for remember ALL LIFE CRAVES THE BLESSING OF DIVINE LOVE!

Now call to the Great Elohim of Peace, the Beloved Tranquility, and ask Him to SEAL all your efforts so that you become a being of *CAUSE* alone—and that Cause, pure Divine Love. Thus you become a channel through which these Great Beings can pour Their Love, Peace, and Blessings to all mankind and the very Earth itself.

It is easy to love God; to love His Messengers—the Ascended Masters and Cosmic Beings; and those who love and admire you; but it requires great strength, patience and self-control to love the person who is not congenial or who irritates you—and yet—that is the Love of which Jesus spoke, for every man is your neighbor and once was also lovely and beautiful—having come from the Heart of God even as you did yourself. That is one way to make the balance for your own misuse of Life through the ages, for never forget that the whole object of embodiment is to become MASTER of energy, which means to be able to CONTROL HARMONIOUSLY your thoughts, feelings, memories, speech and actions, and the currents of energy that come to you from other parts of life. When you are MASTER of yourself, you will be MASTER over all!

The Ascended Masters and Cosmic Beings have been so generous in Their Love, Their instruction, Their patience; and the finest way to repay Them is to become that channel through which They can pour Their Love, Peace, Supply, Protection and Blessings to all life everywhere. Then when your own Great God Presence issues the summons to come HOME, you will be ready—the balance already having been made. However, when your own IMMORTALITY has been assured, like many who have preceded you, you may choose to stay a little

longer on our Earth to help more of your fellowmen to also find Immortality through that Love and Peace of which *you* have become the example, and thus Earth is made richer and a better place in which to live because of your Presence here and your example of having achieved the Goal of all Life—the Victory of the Ascension—through Love and Peace. May the Great Orion and the Beloved Tranquility give to each one who reads these words the Illumination required for all to achieve Life Everlasting through Love and through Peace—the easy way.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father! Oh, that blessed thought
With blissful Heavenly comfort fraught!
I lift my grateful heart to Thee,
Creator! And my Diety.
Thou art in Heaven; and Thou art Love;
Thou Ruler of the Realms above.
Thou art on Earth; to me is given
That where Thou art, O God, is Heaven.
Thy Name be hallowed, Sovereign Lord,
Be reverenced, glorified, adored;
May all Thy children come to Thee
In holy, rapt humility.
Thy Kingdom come, Thou God of Love;
That Realm invisible above,
With Peace, Goodwill forevermore,
Shall end oppression, lust, and war.
Thy Will be done on Earth we pray,
As Angels do in Heaven today.
May we from wilfulness be freed —
From hatred, malice, crime and greed.
Give us our daily bread today;
Strengthen our bodies for life's fray;
And to our hungry souls be given
That Living Bread sent down from Heaven.
Father — compassionate and kind,
Our sins forgive; and may we find
Grace to forgive, with cheerfulness,
Our brothers who 'gainst us transgress.
And from temptation's luring blight
May we be kept clean, holy, bright;
So that our lives may always be
Pure and acceptable to Thee.
From evil's influence and snare
Keep us, Thou great Deliverer;
From stain of sin may we be free,
Both now and through the years to be.
For Thine's the Kingdom — Holy — Bright —
Divinely perfect in Thy sight.
The Power! The Glory — Majesty!
Both now and through Eternity!

Albert E. Kemsley

THE HEART OF GOD

To describe the Heart of God in words is almost an impossibility, but through the medium of your consciousness, you may journey deeper and deeper into that Stillness which forms the Sacred Heart from whence has come forth into being this Universe and all life—small and great alike.

It is *HOME* in its truest and deepest sense. It is Security and Safety and Understanding and Love without censure and Peace without price. It is Light such as the most exquisite sunshine that your imaging faculties could conceive, and yet It is as restful as the twilight. It is as silent as the Sun in the heavens in the performance of Its cosmic duties, and yet it is filled with sound in perfect harmony. You might say It is every pair of opposites in their perfect sense—without dissensions or imperfections of any kind—for every quality has two poles—silence and sound—activity and stillness; although mankind has falsely created in this world of form an opposite to Love, which is hate—an opposite to Silence, which is noise.

However, within this great Cosmic Heart is a Realm, which Jesus called the Kingdom of Heaven. Others call It the Sacred Heart. David called It the Secret Place of the Most High, but by whatever name It is called, It is the ultimate Goal toward which all life is journeying, and It can be experienced by the evolving consciousness of any unascended being when he has become still enough.

Once you have entered into the Heart of that exquisite Stillness where you will meet with every Being Who has mastered the outer self; where you can see the full design of God's Plan for every creature; you will never leave It again; but you will work from within that Heart, abiding in Perfect Peace. Your physical heart is a replica of the Great Cosmic Heart of the Universe, and through the door of that Heart you can enter the place of Stillness, and you will find It increasing and becoming more tangible as you practice the cultivation of that Inner Peace.

The mankind of Earth are so intent on travel and vacation, and yet they may go into this Inner Realm on a breath and come back more restored than any resort or any physical sunshine or water spa could manifest for them.

To enter deep into the Heart of the Silence is to know the Fullness of Life that is health, enjoyment, prosperity and Peace.

A PRAYER FOR ALL

One of the finest expressions of prayer that has been the heritage of many generations is that of *Saint Francis of Assisi*. Because of its timely supplications, we wish to reprint it here and sincerely hope that its contents may become a part of the consciousness of all who read it.

Lord, make me a channel of Thy Peace,
That where there is hatred I may bring Love;
That where there is wrong I may bring the Spirit of Forgiveness;
That where there is discord I may bring Harmony;
That where there is error I may bring Truth;
That where there is doubt I may bring Faith;
That where there is despair I may bring Hope;
That where there are shadows I may bring Thy Light;
That where there is sadness I may bring Joy.
Lord, grant that I may seek rather to comfort than to be comforted;
To understand than to be understood;
To love than to be loved;
For it is by giving that one receives;
It is by self-forgetting that one finds;
It is by forgiving that one is forgiven;
It is by dying that one awakens to Eternal Life.

O LOVE THAT WILL NOT LET ME GO

O Love that will not let me go,
To Thee my very life I owe;
Oh, hold me in Thine arms of Light;
May Angels guard me through the night
In Peace beyond all care.

And as the sunrise and the dawn
Come stealing o'er Earth and beyond,
Will see my Spirit rise to be
With Truth sealed for Eternity —
In Purity from Thee.

As Love flows forth to bless mankind,
And Comfort eases heart and mind,
To God my grateful praise shall be
For teaching me Christ mastery —
Hence Freedom from all strife.

And now that "I AM" one with Thee,
Still let me serve to set life free;
Thy way Divine to others show;
To see this planet here below
As it was meant to be.

A. B. N.

PEACE

"Peace I leave with you; my Peace I give unto you;
Not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not
your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." John 14:27

At this season of the year, when our thoughts are turned toward the Master Jesus, we call to mind some of His teachings, and especially those that were given during the days just prior to His entombment and resurrection. The Fenton translation of the verse quoted above is as follows:

"Peace I leave with you; my own Peace I give to you.
I do not give as the world gives. Do not allow your heart
to be troubled, nor yet be discouraged."

In these words we find the same contrast that so often occurs in the instruction of the great Master Teacher. The peace that the world gives and the peace of the heart are two entirely different types of peace.

Jesus made many references to the heart, and the heart has a far more important part in the Christian teaching than being just a pump for the blood.

"Blessed are the pure in heart." (Matt. 5:8)
"Understand with their heart." (John 12:40)
"The blindness of their hearts." (Eph. 4:18)
"That *their hearts might be comforted.*" (Col. 2:2)
"If ye from your hearts forgive not." (Matt. 18:35)
"Hardness of your hearts." (Matt. 19:8)

These references are just a few of the many that may be found in the Christian Bible concerning the heart and its use. It can now be seen that any understanding of the teachings of the Master Jesus must include a clear interpretation of the meaning of the word 'heart' as used in the Bible.

Space does not permit a full discussion of the meaning of the word 'heart', but a brief explanation can be given. In Christian terminology, the heart is the seat of life. Paul says: "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?" (1 Cor. 3:16) "The temple of God is holy, which temple ye are." (1 Cor. 3:17) We read later in the same chapter: "The wisdom of this world is foolishness with God." (1 Cor. 3:19) So we have that inner conflict that Saint Paul wrote so much about (see the 7th Chapter of Romans). It is the conflict of the inner God Consciousness (better known as the Christ Consciousness) located in the heart and the outer consciousness located in the brain. The Christ Consciousness is interested in the spiritual values of life, while the outer consciousness is interested in material things. These need not conflict—but they usually do so. "We cannot serve God and Mammon!" (St. Luke 16:13)

The outer man has a tendency to measure success in terms of bank accounts, property accumulations, and other things that will win the

praise of his fellowmen. The inner man measures success in the terms of the Golden Rule and its ability to decrease the woes of the world. There is nothing wrong or wicked about the material things of life. They are the blessings of God and should be accepted with thanksgiving. The trouble comes when we make material things our goal in life rather than tools to work with and blessings to be enjoyed. It is easy to make these things 'treasures on Earth', and when that happens, we miss the real purpose of life. The activities of the outer man are limited to one life span. "You cannot take it with you!"

The inner life is the life of God. Jesus said: "Call no man your father upon the Earth, for one is your Father, which is in Heaven." (Matt. 23:9) This inner life, sometimes mistakenly called 'the soul', is a part of the God Life and is not subject to death. At the time of parting from the body, this "Spirit returns to God who gave it." It does not lose its identity or consciousness, and spends its time, between incarnations, in what Jesus referred to as 'Paradise' when He spoke to the thief on the cross.

Since this Spirit is placed in a material body, as a seed is placed in the ground, for the purpose of growth, and since this Spirit is fathered by God Himself (Matt. 23:9), then we are all embryonic sons and daughters of God, and when you are finally born of the Spirit, you will be a Divine Being (II Peter 1:4) It has been said that if God wants to make a pumpkin, he takes the sunshine and showers of a single summer; but if He wants to make an oak tree, He takes the sunshine and showers of a hundred summers and *the storms of a hundred winters*. If He wants to develop a son or a daughter that can be trusted to wield divine powers, how many summers and how many storms do you think it will take? That work is slow; and no one life span is long enough for that development. Thus we should never look down on one that might be going through the 'storms of life'. It may be that our own development has not reached a point where life thought us capable of withstanding the tests of spiritual strength. The Sage has said:

> "Let no man look at another in judgment, for that one might well be working out the karma (effects of previously created causes) that would otherwise weigh heavily upon another soul."

In other words: "Judge not, that ye be not judged!" (Matt. 7:1) Jesus *knew* the truth of these things of which we have spoken, and it was for that reason that He could face the cross and say: "My Peace I give unto you." When we are able to shift the center of our being from the outer to the inner, the storms of life will lose their terror. We *will* have storms for they are a part of the process of development that we have chosen. However "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on Thee; because he trusteth in Thee," (Isa. 26:3)

May the God of Light give you understanding of these words.

THE STRENGTH OF LOVE

Much has been written on the Law of Love, which is the cohesive power of the Universe. It is the magnet of attraction drawing all toward the center, generating and pouring forth the *Flame of Love*.

Love is the Keynote of the Universe, and the keynote of every lifestream. When you consciously attune yourself to the Presence of Love and quicken the action of your inner bodies until they become conductors for the Flaming Substance of Divine Love, you will find the very substance of Earth drawn toward you for a blessing.

Divine Love is a *positive* and *not* a negative quality. The Love of God is the Power that created this planet on which we are now evolving. It was Love that drew us forth initially from the Heart of God and caused the physical body to coalesce around the Divine Spark. Why did God create man? In order that He might have something to Love. Even we know that life seems more congenial when we have an object for our affections. Even the miser is happy in his love for his gold. Regardless of where the quality of Love may be directed, it is still an integral part of the Divine Scheme. It has been said that *Love is impersonal friendship and universal kindness*. An analysis of this statement removes any possibility of possession. Perfect Love casteth out fear; perfect Love gives absolute freedom, and as is true in any other situation, this *freedom* must not be considered lightly nor used as license. It is sometimes the case that a person who loves another very deeply, desiring the greatest possible happiness for the object of that love, will give freedom to that one to make a choice, knowing very well of the possibility of losing that one for whom a strong spiritual affinity has been felt. This takes great strength of character, but it *is* True Love because it is selfless and is one of the brightest facets in God's Jewel of Beauty—Divine Love.

Love has many manifestations. There is, of course, that deep devotion that one has for his God and the Master Jesus, or others of the Heavenly Host. Perhaps, best known to all is the love that exists between man and woman. Love between true and tested friends is something to be treasured in the hearts of all. William Shakespeare wrote of Love as follows:

> Let me not to the marriage of true minds
> Admit impediments. Love is not love
> Which alters when it alteration finds,
> Or bends with the remover to remove;
> Oh no! it is an ever-fixed mark
> That looks on tempests and is never shaken.
> It is the star to every wandering bark,

Whose worth's unknown, although his height be taken.
Love's not Time's fool, though rosy lips and cheeks
Within his bending sickle's compass come;
Love alters not with his brief hours and weeks,
But bears it out even to the edge of doom.

Love, being of the Divine Nature of God, is not a quality of weakness, nor of vacillation. It does not change from day to day, nor is it removed from a person who is loved when he or she appears to fall short of a pre-conceived ideal. Mother Love is possibly the closest to that of the Divine Parent, for it is the strength that comes from the loving Father when a mother, watching over a child's sick-bed, and knowing, but not recognizing, weariness, prays for more strength and healing from the never-ending Fount of All Love. Parental Love, so much like that of God, the Father, demands great strength from day to day particularly in the raising of families so that they may grow spiritually as well as materially. It is the strength within Love that enables men and women to leave their own families and travel to the far corners of the Earth in order to minister to those requiring assistance. Many times these people are surrounded by those who resent their presence, and it is thus that the Love of God MUST manifest itself through them in order for them to prove the efficacy of that Love in overcoming conditions not conducive to an harmonious association. Again it is the strong quality of Love Divine from the Heart of God manifesting in the heart of a man who gives his life for another. "Greater *Love* hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." (John 15:13) Life is dear to all—especially when one has not become wearied with the round of living and loving.

As part of the family of the all-encompassing Love of the Father-Mother God, we must expand this Divine Quality within us until we can love ALL LIFE regardless of its condition or appearance. When we can do this without fear or favor, then shall we know that ONENESS with God, and, feeling that God-Peace deep within our beings, we shall understand the meaning of the Beloved Master Jesus' words when He said: "Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." (Luke 12:32) So shall we inherit the Kingdom when, in perfect Love, casting out fear, we can say that we *do* love all life; for all life is God's energy, whether it be misqualified or distorted. Selfless devotion and impersonal giving of one's own life energy will help greatly in purifying all substance manifesting imperfectly, for True Love, which is Divine Compassion, surpasses the understanding of the mind because it is ONE WITH GOD and its strength will set all free.

MEDITATIONS

"I AM" the Bread of Life, saith the Lord. He who feeds on me shall neither hunger nor thirst. PEACE and TRANQUILITY shall be his.

Take heed of the river of living water and float gently thereon, breathing in the air of spiritual vibrations; filling your soul with everlasting life.

Mark the day of your change and ye shall stand firm as a rock against which the gates of hell cannot prevail.

Stand firm and strong for "I AM" is the Way, the Truth, and the Life, saith the Lord of Hosts. No man can come unto the Father except through that "I AM!"

Oh, the beauty of holiness which is uplifting to the souls of humanity! May the Grace of God be ever with us and working through us toward the betterment of our living; giving us the Joy and Peace which passeth all understanding. May the radiance of the Heavenly Heights be manifested to us so that we are raised to the consciouness of our Lord and Saviour, the Christ.

The cleansing power of Christ is with you. Lift up your heads and gaze at the far horizon, and ye shall see it as an open door of Light bidding you welcome. Step bravely forward, looking neither to the right nor to the left, for the Truth is beyond in all its beauty. Faith and Love are the keynotes of Wisdom which can only be given in strict obedience to the teachings of Christ, our Saviour.

"I AM" abundant life and prosperity in God through the Christ Consciousness.

"I AM" made whole in spirit by reaching up to God, through the Christ, for Eternal Youth which is our true and inspired self; Eternal Love which is our strength of character and living; Eternal Joy which is a right mind and a pure heart and the blessed Law of the Great "I AM"!

Our Faith must become as a band of iron which cannot be broken, and which will carry through on the wings of the storm.

The Truth shall be given to those who will, in all sincerity, follow Me. The Heavens shall be opened and from them shall flow a great cascade of Living Waters of Knowledge and Truth. The Great "I AM" —God—is ever watchful for those who will follow the Pathway up the Mount of Attainment. Oh, what joy to follow where he leadeth! The path may be difficult to travel, but His great Love will bear us up lest we stumble by the way.

THE CAUSE AND HEALING OF DISEASE

We are entering a new cycle wherein permanent illumination will outpicture as Divine Perfection and the activity of healing will be directed toward the dissolving of the *inner causes* within the lifestream that result in certain definite maladjustments in both mind and body.

Science is beginning to realize that a great many of the physical and mental disorders are due to unseen emotional causes which rest within the consciousness—sometimes buried beyond the reach and memory of the individual's present personal identity.

The increase of illumination flowing through the earnest and honest members of the healing profession will give them a new understanding which will require the blending of Religion and Science that has been promised as one of the integral steps toward Freedom.

To illustrate briefly: every organ and cell within the physical mechanism has a vibratory action of its own, separate and distinct from the vibratory action of its neighbor's mechanism.

Within the *inner bodies* there are certain centers that *vibrate in unison* within these physical organisms, and certain mental and emotional distortions within the inner bodies affect the physical mechanism in a discordant manner so that the inner vehicles *must* be harmonized and purified in order to have a *permanent* relief and release from maladjustment of the outer self. When these inner causes are removed from the consciousness by the illumination of the outer mind and the co-operation of the personal self, you will find the effects in the physical organism will dissolve and drop away.

This is why the healing of today is more protracted than in the early days, but it provides a vast field of experimentation by the lifestream interested in raising the cover of this tremendous science with the desire to join one's force with the Cosmic Movement of the Age and to manifest, by application, the proof of the Law presented.

An intelligent understanding of the mechanics of the physical form in relation to the other three lower bodies or vehicles will enable you to become more valuable to mankind in the treating and dissolving of the appearances of imperfection.

The nervous system of the body was provided to carry Pure Light from the Heart of God to sustain the various organisms and to motivate them according to the direction of the Higher Mind.

Medical science will attest to the fact that the brain center carries impulses of energy through the nervous system which *precedes* all activity, conscious and unconscious. When the impulses from the brain are blocked by contracted nerve channels or injured nerves, the body ceases to function in the particular area where such blockage occurs. WHY?

Because the Light, which is Life, is the only animating and motivating Power in the Universe, and if the channel through which it passes does not, for one reason or another, remain open, the Light in that portion of the body, organ, limb or cell, continues to decrease — having no feeding station.

The nervous system is affected by all discordant vibrations set up in the mental, emotional, and etheric bodies, and it is like a hose that has lost its resilience or becomes stuck together so that the passage of fluid through it is no longer possible and it becomes unfit for use.

Fear, depression, uncertainty, as well as anger and the more violent emotions continue to corrode the fine lines that form the nervous system. This is also the cause of old age, disintegration and death, and the blockage of the Light through the nervous system is the only reason that the various parts of the body cease to receive the renewing power contained within this natural Life flow, and so disintegration begins to take place.

In the course of nature, if the nervous system was not impaired, even the small percentage of Light (five to ten percent) alloted to mankind would completely renew every nerve, every cell, every tissue, bone and muscle within six months to a year. The Light that flows through the nervous system carries the renewing power, and when the channels through which the Light flows are disintegrating, the renewing and rejuvenation process ceases.

Although mankind, in his progress toward perfection, does of necessity, have to change his physical garments in order to vary his life experience on the Earth, he could wear those garments in Youth and Beauty, and discard them while they were yet functioning perfectly by merely consciously withdrawing all the Life and Light out of the nervous system and the cells and the atoms that were still intact, and then the remaining structure would be returned to its natural element by being placed in the physical flame.

All the poor eyesight, impaired hearing, and slow mental faculties, as well as all wasting diseases to which mankind are prone, and for that matter, *every* imperfect expression of DIS-EASE is *lack of Light* resulting from blockage or *broken lines* which previously carried Light into that particular section of the anatomy.

Knowing the picture now, you might well secure a chart of the physical body and study the nervous system, and you will find that the nerves extend to the very tips of the fingers and toes and to all strategic and vital organs, and that fine hair lines or feeders, which may not be illustrated on the chart, extend from the main channel.

If there is an appearance in any particular section of the vehicle, you can thus intelligently trace the particular part of the nervous

system that has been impaired, and this can be replaced and rebuilt by the visualization of the Light flowed through that section in a forced outpouring.

Then the lifestream must be carefully examined for the cause *within* that has shattered the nervous system in that section, and a sincere call will reveal, in the privacy of your own heart, the condition of the mental, emotional and etheric bodies which are responsible for the damage.

DEMAND that impulses of vibration that are like the clashing of cymbals in a destructive manner CEASE in your own inner bodies and those of all mankind. In this way you can rebuild any faulty organ into perfect health in a matter of hours, days, weeks, or months — according to your specific capabilities and concentration.

BE STILL AND KNOW

Be still, my child, and know that "I AM" God;
That I, who from My bosom gave thee life,
Will ever guard thee from
All Earthly strife.
So may ye know that "I AM" one with thee;
For in thy heart
My Flame of Love is burning bright;
And in thy calls to Me,
Thy great sincerity
Will draw forth Power
To raise all life into My light.

Be still, dear one, and know that "I AM" God,
Whene'er life's burdens seem so hard to bear;
For it is then that I
Thy troubles share;
And through thy world I pour sustaining Love
To hold thee steadfast
To that one appointed Way —
To draw forth from above
The Power of Comfort's Dove
To bless all life;
That Peace on Earth shall come to stay.

Be still, sweet soul, and know that "I AM" God;
And would thee mould to My own great Design,
That you may now fulfill
Your Plan Divine.
E'en though My voice seems not to pierce the veil,
Deep in your heart,
The Christ in you is pleading still
For you to raise your eyes
And from above the skies,
Call forth My Love,
And use its Power to do My Will.

K. Arthur Knight

THE PHYSICAL BRAIN

The physical brain is the instrument of contact with the world of form. It is a complex mechanism whose intricacies have never been fully understood or discovered by the scientific world of any age since the Great Illuminati, who governed the planet during the Golden Ages, were withdrawn into the Heart of Heaven.

The brain is the first point of contact where wrong ideas begin to register within the consciousness of the individual lifestream. To describe the brain from the standpoint of its inner significance and reason for being, we shall consider it as a sun around which are the seven rays representing the six senses and the ray to the physical heart, which ray should be, by far, the widest and most powerful channel or conductor of force.

The Divine Mind, which is the full consciousness of all Truth pours that consciousness of Truth into the physical heart, and then up through that seventh ray into the brain structure, conveying to the personal self the fullness of all Truth according to the individual's particular study or desire of the moment. In other words, if there were a desire to express more beauty in music, that part of the Divine Mind directly concerned with music would flow into the heart and naturally up to the brain structure, thence through the channels of the senses into the outer world as the manifestation of perfection released from the Divine Mind through the individual so choosing to call it forth.

In other words, the original purpose of the brain structure, with its seven channels of force, was intended to be a radiating sun through which the Divine Mind might pour an ever-widening consciousness of Truth into the Universe. Every genius of art and music, every inventor, and every great statesman who ever served the people in a permanent capacity for good has, consciously or unconsciously, used the brain structure as was originally intended—as a conductor of the Divine Ideas—with the Powers of Creation manifesting that perfection for the good of all.

Whence comes the human mind? Are the human mind and the human brain synonymous?

Firstly, the channels or rays that proceed from the brain represent the senses, i.e. sight, hearing, smell, taste, touch, intuition; and the Divine Ray of God from the heart that chooses to pour through these senses more and more of God's Divine Plan—the senses being the instruments of creation. However, through distortion and inversion of the Law, the senses began to draw into the brain structure the various reports of the world without, and in time became the magnetic pull of imperfect manifestations from the outside world, until the central point where the senses focus in the physical brain became a conglomerate

mass of impressions reported to the brain by these faulty senses, and this conglomerate mass became the human carnal mind.

This mind has no reality; it is not true; but yet it forms the beliefs, concepts and motivating power behind the acts, the thoughts, and the feelings of the people.

The human mind is not synonymous with the brain which is a physical structure made up of atoms and cells, but it is a mass of thought and feeling consciousness drawn into the brain which then works back through the senses in the outward motion as the controlling power of the lifestream's experience.

This human mind is a powerful creation, which is not only an individual entity, but a mass entity which has become the controlling power of the average human being. The Great Presence of God, endeavoring to direct the lifestream, projects the Light Ray into the heart and back up into this whirling, breathing mass of concepts, thoughts and feelings, but the individual, being so enamored of his own thought and feeling processes, is seldom aware of this Voice of the Silence.

In the case of great men and women who have served the purpose of assisting the Divine Plan in nations, the God-Power had to raise that individual to a point where his human mind was stilled and there could be revealed to him the vision of the God Plan. These people usually had little accumulation in the brain structure, and the over-shadowing Presence of some God-Being held in abeyance the human thinking until the Divine Vision was revealed within the heart of the intellectual consciousness; then, through the channels provided by the senses, such individuals were given the opportunity of translating the idea into physical manifestations. Here they had to be insulated in an oval of the Christ Consciousness to make sure that the human mind, of which they were primarily a part, did not flow in and obliterate the Great Vision.

When a great Spiritual Movement is about to take place, or a great patriotic venture, or any mission that will stir a forward movement in the race, this Divine outpouring takes place through the mind of the central figure who is chosen because of his requisites of purity and strength, and in a lesser degree, the same Vision is imparted to many lifestreams who will have the strength and sustaining power of that Vision to its accomplishment. These individuals receive this inner inspiration usually completely unknown to the outer selves until it is started by the leader whom they recognize, and whose Truth they have shared at inner levels. Thus you have a constructive group of lifestreams who have tasted the inner sweetness of a Vision yet unborn, and who can work together in more or less agreement, according to the natural harmony of their beings, to the accomplishment of that Vision.

THE POWER OF THE HAND

How many times do we ever consider the importance of the hand? The state of consciousness of a people can be determined by the use it makes of its hands. To the caveman it was an instrument by which the club was wielded for protection or to obtain mere sustenance. With it the carpenter deftly manipulates his tools to construct a mansion for his family. The musician uses his hands to coax from the harp strings the music of the spheres. Moreover, both mind and spirit are disciplined and refined through the mastery of the hands.

The famous English naturalist, Thomas H. Huxley, once said: "I am, and have been, any time these thirty years, a man who works with his hands — a handicraftsman. If the most nimble-fingered watchmaker among you will come to my workshop, he may set me to put a watch together, and I will set him to dissect, say, a black bettle's nerves. I do not wish to vaunt, but I am inclined to think that I shall manage my job to his satisfaction sooner that he will do his piece of work to mine."

In his book, *Power of Will*, F. C. Haddock points out that "the hands are said to indicate, in a general way, the nature of the owner. Yet few people know their own hands. This is because few people really understand the one condition of all knowledge — ATTENTION.

"Nevertheless, the hand is one of the most perfect and obedient of servants. Industry, invention, science and art reveal the range of its nobility — *according to the soul behind it*. To the ditch-digger, it may be a claw only; to the painter or sculptor — an instrument of creative power . . . a food producer or a manufacturer, a tool or an instrument of the noblest humanity, the hand is servant and king among the senses — *an index of spiritual values*.

"It is the *executive* organ of the body. As the body is the instrument of the mind, the hand, therefore, becomes the mind's chief officer in life.

"The savage *wills* to procure flesh for food; the outcome is the spear, the bow and arrow, the hook and net.

"The hunter *wills* a permanent shelter; the outcome is the hammer, the axe, the saw, the trowel, nails and various building materials.

"The farmer *wills* agriculture; the outcome is the spade, the pick-axe, the shovel, the hoe, the plow, the rake, the sickle, mower, reaper, thresher and mill.

"The home-dweller *wills* education; the outcome is pen, ink and paper, the printing press, the laboratory, the microscope and telescope, the library, the school and college.

"The educated soul *wills* art; the outcome is the chisel and mallet, the brush and pallet, the canvas and museum.

"The artistic mind *wills* music; the outcome is the reed, string, horn, and orchestral talent.

"These all *will* government; the outcome is the throne and sceptre, the constitution, the court and council-room, the treaty.

"Man *wills* religion; the outcome is the Altar, the Book, the Church, the Rubric, the concrete philanthrophy of soul.

"Every single step in this long journey, the hand has been omnipresent as the Executive of the *Conquering Will*.

"Training of the hand always reacts upon the growing mind. It may become a medium by which to culture the soul and develop the will. Like will — like hand; but as well like hand — like will. Whoever puts his whole hand to the growth of will-power, has power of will wholly in his hand."

The impersonal activity of the Holy Spirit is well represented in the hand because there can be no personality connected with the office and service of the hand when the veil is drawn between that hand and the body from which it ensues.

We have heard of the expression, and we have all required the services of a 'helping hand' many times in the course of a lifetime, and ofttimes we knew not from whence that 'hand' would come. The Holy Spirit, in the choosing of a body through which He wishes to render a service, or answer a prayer, must of necessity accept the services of a lifestream who wears a garment of flesh, and throughout the planet Earth, the Holy Spirit has many times reached forth a 'helping hand' through a wholly unconscious vehicle, and by it has rendered a service of charity, of blessing, and of comfort.

In the activity of the New Age, which will be the final manifestation of an era of great perfection for the Earth and Her people, every *hand* of every lifestream will become a *Hand of the Holy Spirit*. The capacity to clench the fist in either greed or anger will be replaced by the outstretched *Hand* of Blessing, of Giving, of Raising.

In the Seven Great Spheres of Life, the First is that of God, the Father; the Second — God, the Son (the Christ); and the Third is that of God, the Holy Spirit. This Third Sphere is divided into five Divine Rays or activities — Adoration (Love); Purification (Purity); Consecration; Ministration; Invocation. These five facets are represented in the fingers of the hand, and when the Seventh Ray has completed its service to the Earth and its peoples, the *Cosmic Hand* of the Universal Christ will stand revealed in the Heavens, and from Its vibrant

fingertips will the Advent of the Second Coming flow in unceasing benediction upon the Children of Earth.

The dedication of the *hands* to the Holy Spirit was a most important ceremony in the days of Atlantis. It took place within the Temple, and was a most Sacred Sacrament. Individuals who, after long thought and serious contemplation, chose to relinquish the free-will action of their hands into the greater use of the Invisible Diety, would place their hands upon the Altar, and through the offices of a Priest or Priestess of the Temple, would have those hands united with the *Cosmic Will of the Universal First Cause*. Through the centuries, these individuals have carried that particular connection, and their hands have become naturally qualified to soothe, to heal, to convey blessings. This custom of the 'Consecration of the Hands' is pursued down to the present day when an individual has chosen to dedicate his lifestream to a Cause and is admitted into a certain Order.

There is no limit to the service that Life can render through the hands of an unascended being by the dedication of a lifestream to a Cause. Like a draft in the army, every man must, sooner or later, give his *hands*, as well as his heart, to God, but those who volunteer and precede the draft, are not only more loved of God, but experience in themselves the ecstasy of pre-dedication.

The mighty energy which flows from the Heart of God through the Silver Cord, is a rapidly pulsating river of prismatic Light which animates and sustains the physical body. If we were to slow down the vibratory action of that life energy, we would see that the electrons of which it is composed carry a *distinct pattern* or design which differs in all lifestreams — even as the geometrical perfection of the snowflake is singular.

As this energy is moulded by thought and feeling into form and sent forth into the universe, it carries the plan of the original design into whatever service is rendered by the lifestream in either word or deed. That energy goes forth in a *handclasp*, so that the individual receiving the handclasp, when the hand is removed, has upon the palm, superimposed over his own energy, many thousands of these tiny forms representative of the lifestream of the giver. The second individual then goes on his way, performing one act or another, yet he carries with him some of the energy of his friend. This is how one's energy passes on in an endless chain from one to another in handclasps and other services requiring contact in different modes of service until the energy from each one reaches out to various parts of the planet. The outer world science of personal magnetism has touched the fringe of this activity, but their reference, of course, is made to the physical form whereas we refer to the life structure and picture within.

The manner in which these particles are charged forth determines the resulting effect upon the lifestream releasing them. The energy may pass to another in a handclasp, but the predominant *feeling* existent at the time will determine whether its passage through the universe carries friendship and love or otherwise; and in its return circle, will pick up only vibrations similar to its own. Thus its return unto its source brings, amplified a millionfold, the initial vibration with which it was sent forth.

It is one of the *most important* and *least understood* activities of life that the *radiation* and *feeling* that go into the preparation of food affect everyone who partakes of it, and this activity should be unhurried, peaceful, and happy. It would be better that an individual did not eat at all than to eat food prepared under the feeling of anger, resentment, depression, or any outward pressure, because the substance of the lifestream performing the service flows into that food and is eaten, and actually becomes part of the energy of the receiver. That is why the advanced spiritual teachers of the East never eat food prepared by anyone other than their own students. If the individual who sometimes is possessed of the only advanced spiritual understanding in the household would make the preparation of his or her culinary efforts an active charge of *Happiness, Purity, Peace, Opulence* and *Freedom*, what the other members will not get by study, *they will eat*. There are more ways than one of allowing the *Spirit of God* to enter the flesh of man.

The Master Jesus used His hands, almost constantly, as conductors of the energy drawn from God and charged, through the electrons of His great Lifestream, with Healing Power for those requiring assistance. He and His Disciples healed by the 'laying on of hands'. In this manner, the electronic particles of the Master's energy were charged into this physical structure as well as into the inner bodies of those He assisted. These particles of Light remained with the individual and radiated the *feeling* of the Master long after He had proceeded on His way. His purpose in this was to sustain His Consciousness in the individual thus assisted lest the mass mind draw him back into his former way of thinking. Everybody close to the Master Jesus in that embodiment was literally covered with the 'Star Dust of His Light' which was as tangible a Robe of Grace as was the White garment which He wore. Likewise, the whole planet was benefitted by the radiation of His Presence.

The *willing hand* dedicated to the Holy Spirit can become the *Hand of God* in action, and thus usher in the Brotherhood of the New Age already casting its beams across the horizons of the world.

THE LEGEND OF THE WISSAHICKON

Near Philadelphia, on the banks of the lovely Wissahickon River, there was once a Protestant monastery where lived a Brotherhood of noble men who had left Europe and had sought a home in the wilderness—far from the courts of kings. They were known as Fanatics.

About a mile from the old monastery, there lived a man who was of the Brotherhood in belief, but not with them because he had brought with him to the New World his young son and baby daughter. He was a noble man of wealth and position, whose religious beliefs were not tolerated by either the Protestants or the Catholics. He had lived patiently and quietly in the Old World, doing his best and faithfully serving his king, until his beloved wife died. Then he had given up his castle, his lands, his title and most of his great possessions, and fled across the sea with his young son and baby daughter to make a home in an old-time blockhouse in the Wissahickon wilderness. There he lived and studied the Book of Revelations for seventeen years. Meantime, his little son became a noble youth who shared his father's every hope and conviction. His baby daughter became a fair maiden, lovely beyond words, with golden hair which fell, not in ringlets or curls, but in soft wavy profusion, to her shoulders.

We are told that when the shadows were beginning to lengthen on the last day of 1773, the little family might have been seen walking, arm in arm, along the banks of the Wissahickon, beneath trees bending under their weight of snow. The father, who was then known and loved far and near as the Priest of the Wissahickon, wore a velvet cloak and a silver cross, suspended by a cord, around his neck. The girl, with a look of adoration upon her face, listened, without questioning, to the conversation between father and brother in whose eyes shone the Light of Immortality. For seventeen years the old man had studied Revelations, and again he repeated what he had affirmed so many times before as the result of these years of study.

"The Old World," said he, "is sunk in all manner of crime, as was the Antediluvian World. The New World is given to man as a refuge, even as the Ark was given to Noah and his children. The New World is the last altar of human freedom left on the surface of the globe. Never shall the footsteps of kings pollute its soil. It is the last hope of man. God has spoken and it is so. Amen!"

It was the girl who urged a return to the house, and it was she who sought its warmth and shelter for the sake of her loved ones, and drew the curtains at the windows of the living-room to shut out the gloomy forest and coming night. It was the girl who tried to bring cheer to the little group and to lighten the sadness of her father and brother; to distract them from their sombre thought and study. That

night she tried in vain; she knew that passing hunters would again hear the voice of prayer late into the night and see the chapel lights streaming across the snow until the dawn.

The hour of separation came when father and son bade the maiden good-night and together sought the chapel where two tall candles were already burning upon the white altar. It was a circular chamber with oak panels. Between the candles on the altar was a slender silver flagon, a wreath of laurel freshly gathered from the Wissahickon hills, and a velvet-bound Bible with clasps of gold. Behind the altar was an iron cross. The Priest of the Wissahickon was the first to break the silence. Said he:

"At the third hour after midnight, the Deliverer will come!"

Then, as the young man stood pondering, the father repeated: "Tonight he will come. At the third hour after midnight, he will come through yonder door and take upon himself his great mission to free the New World from the yoke of tyrants. All is ready for his coming. Behold the crown, the flagon of anointing oil, the Bible, and the Cross!"

Hours passed. The lad knelt in prayer, but the father paced up and down the chapel waiting until the clock of the great hall struck twelve and the New Year dawned. Then the lad arose and gently tried to prepare his father for disappointment. Perhaps they were mistaken; perhaps they were not right in believing that the time for the Deliverer was at hand.

"At the third hour after midnight, the Deliverer will come!" was the father's answer.

The lad returned to his prayers and the Priest of the Wissahickon continued his lonely watch while the clock struck one-two-three. Then there came footsteps in the hall, and a tall stranger of commanding presence entered the door of the chapel and spoke these words:

"Friends , I have lost my way in the forest. Can you direct me to the right way?"

Answered the Priest of the Wissahickon: "Thou hast found thy way to usefulness and immortal renown!"

Wondering, the stranger came a step nearer to see if he were being mocked, but the Priest of the Wissahickon rapidly questioned him. Did he come from the city? Yes. What was the burden upon his heart? Was it not his country's welfare? Yes. Was he not troubled about the right of a subject to raise his hand against his king? Yes. Then said the Priest of the Wissahickon to the amazed stranger.

"Thou art called to a great work. Kneel before this altar, and here, in the silence of night, amid the depths of these wild woods, will I anoint thee Deliverer of this great land!"

Immediately, this peerless stranger, before whom ten thousand might bow their heads, knelt before the white altar in the old block-

house and placed his hands upon the Bible. Then, says the legend, these words fell from the lips of the Priest of the Wissahickon:

"Thou art called to the great work of a Champion and Deliverer! Soon thou wilt ride to battle at the head of legions; soon thou wilt lead a people on to Freedom; soon thy sword will gleam like a meteor over the ranks of war!"

The candle-light cast weird shadows on the wall; the silver cross of the Priest shone; the white altar cloth waved in the wind from the open outer door; the trees moaned outside while the Priest continued thus:

"Dost thou promise that when the appointed time arrives, thou wilt be found ready, sword in hand, to fight for thy Country and thy God?"

Solemnly came the answer: "I do!"

"Dost thou promise in the hour of thy glory, when a nation shall bow before thee—as in the fierce moment when thou shalt behold thy soldiers starving for want of bread—to remember the great Truth written in these words: I AM BUT THE MINISTER OF GOD IN THIS GREAT WORK OF A NATION'S FREEDOM?"

Clearly, firmly, came the answer: "I do promise!"

"Then, in His Name Who gave the New World to millions of the human race as the last altar of their Rights, I do consecrate thee its Deliverer!"

The Priest of the Wissahickon dipped his fingers in the anointing oil and described the outline of a cross upon the stranger's forehead, and was about to place the laurel wreath upon his head after saying: "When the time comes, go forth to Victory. On thy brow no conqueror's blood-red wreath, but this crown of fadeless laurel," when the girl appeared, took the wreath and crowned the stranger.

Unable to sleep, she had hastily donned a white robe, and putting a dark cloak around her, had gone down to the chapel and had witnessed the scene unnoticed until she had seized the laurel crown from her father's hand. Fearing that she had been presumptuous, the girl bowed her head, but her father smiled.

'It is well!" said he, "from whom should the Deliverer of a Nation receive his crown of laurel but from the hands of a stainless woman?"

Then spoke the lad: "Rise, the champion leader of a People. Rise, sir, and take this hand which never yet was given to man. I know not thy name; yet on this Book I swear to be faithful to thee even to the death!" Then Paul, for that was his name, buckled a sword to the stranger's side.

When the ceremony was over, the stranger stood in the chapel in towering strength and majesty, and said these final words:

"From you, old man, I take the vow. From you, fair girl, the laurel. From you, brave friend, the sword. On the Book I swear to be faithful unto all!"

A moment later, the stranger vanished into the outer wilderness of the Wissahickon, and the sound of his retreating footsteps mingled with the moaning of the wind. That was New Year's Night of the Year 1774.

In the darkest hour of the American Revolution, the blockhouse was burned, and while smoke still rose from the ruined home, three were sleeping in their graves by the Wissahickon. One was an aged nobleman; one was a fearless lad; and the other a fair girl with a wealth of golden hair.

Years later when America was a nation and George Washington was her President, again came the stranger of noble presence to the banks of the Wissahickon, seeking a blockhouse and the three who had sent him on his mission—that New Year's Eve of 1774. He found the ruined blockhouse and the graves. That night, at a party in the bright city of Philadelphia, there were many who wondered why, at a time when a nation bowed before him, the Father of our Country was sad and thoughtful, and bowed his head as if in memory of grief when a fair maid with a wealth of golden hair sang a song of the Wissahickon.

THE HOLY BIBLE — ITS TEACHINGS & SYMBOLS

Did Jesus establish the Christian Church?
Does the Bible teach Reincarnation?
What is the Divine Nature?

These are a few of the questions which will be answered in a new series of articles entitled "THE HOLY BIBLE — ITS TEACHINGS AND SYMBOLS" to be featured in Volume 5 of "HOPE" commencing with the April — May, 1959 issue. Many have asked for a better understanding of the Ascended Masters' teachings in the light of those found in the Holy Bible. In the forthcoming series, we shall endeavor to show that the fundamentals of Truth exist in both for the one who is a SEEKER, and that this instruction is NOT NEW, but that its presentation, heretofore classified as "the mysteries of God" due to its symbolic nature, can be made comprehensible to all.

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